

**Residential Child Care Facility Capital Needs Assessment
and Grant Program**

FY2002 Request: \$500,000
Reference No: 33815

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Renewal and Replacement

Category: Health/Safety

Location: Statewide

Contact: Larry Streuber

Election District: Statewide

Contact Phone: (907)465-1870

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2001 - 06/30/2007

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Provides for a small needs assessment in FY02 and award of capital grants in FY02 and beyond for new facilities, deferred maintenance, ADA upgrades, remodeling and equipment needs for in-state residential youth care facilities.

Funding:

	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	Total
AHFC Div	\$349,800						\$349,800
Gen Fund	\$150,200	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$4,000,000	\$19,750,200
Total:	\$500,000	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$3,900,000	\$4,000,000	\$20,100,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On-Going Project
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Total Operating Impact:	0	0
One-Time Startup Costs:	0	
Additional Estimated Annual O&M:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

This is the first year of the project.

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Background: AS 47.14.100 mandates the Department of Health & Social Services to provide for the "...care of every child committed to its custody by placing the child in a foster home or in the care of an agency or institution providing care for children inside or outside the state." To meet this mandate, the Department, through the Division of Family & Youth Services (DFYS), provides a continuum of care including in-home placements, relative placements, foster care, and residential care to ensure that a wide array of services are available to children and their families to meet different levels of need, dependent upon the unique situation of each child and family.

The number of children in foster care in Alaska continues to grow. The Division of Family and Youth Services is workload adjusting fewer cases, which has resulted in an increase in child protection investigations, earlier intervention and a higher number of children in foster care. The current foster care system is overcrowded, with many foster care children who experience severe emotional and behavioral problems. These children often fail in foster home settings, resulting in multiple placements for children and often the loss of foster homes. For many of these children, residential care treatment and group home facilities with 24-hour professional staff provide a more appropriate placement environment.

Residents have many difficulties. For example, in the second quarter of FY00, 75% of children and youth screened (psychiatric/psychological testing) for residential care were diagnosed with DSM IV mental health disorders. The most common disorders were Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Attention Deficit Disorder, Depressive Disorders, and Conduct Disorders. Because of the limited availability of psychiatric/psychological services, children are often placed in residential care facilities prior to testing.

On August 3, 2000, the Department had 222 children placed in residential care facilities. The Department, through the Division of Family & Youth Services (DFYS), provides grants to residential treatment and group home facilities located throughout the State and is the primary funding source for many of the residential care grantees. The Department, through the grantees, provides six levels of residential care including Day Treatment; Emergency Shelter; Specialized Care; Intensive Treatment; Residential Psychiatric Treatment; and Residential Diagnostic Treatment. DFYS places children in these facilities based on an assessment of the child's needs, and the availability of bed space and other placement options.

The Department is requesting the funds to conduct a statewide needs assessment to assess new expansion and renovation and repair needs along with a construction component to implement the needs assessment. The results of this assessment would be used in the development of a 5-Year Master Plan for capital construction. Many residential facilities, particularly in the rural areas, need significant improvement. In addition, the continued increase in the need for residential care programs of all levels necessitates the ability to fund new construction projects in order to expand the capacity of existing providers and possibly add additional providers of services. Expansion of in-state program capacity would enable DFYS to develop programs that would serve children currently being placed outside the state for treatment.

Residential care providers have identified a number of needs for capital improvements of their facilities. The types of capital expenditure needs identified by providers include heating systems, fire and sprinkler alarm systems, renovations needed for ADA compliance (e.g. ramps and accessible bathrooms) and new roofs for leaky buildings. In addition, many of our programs are in need of new refrigerators, stoves and other appliances.

All of these identified needs have a direct impact on the health and safety of the children served by these providers. For many residential care providers, DFYS is their sole source of funding. As a result, the majority of their funds must be targeted to sustain their programs, with less and less money being available for facility improvements and expansion. All the providers are private, non-profit agencies, with insufficient funds to cover major capital expenses, as the majority of their funding must go directly to program and service provision. This capital grant program for grants to residential care facilities would enable DFYS to continue to meet the needs of Alaska's children.

Representative Deferred Maintenance Projects

The specific projects shown below are a representative list of known needs that may be adjusted on the basis of the needs assessment.

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Life Quest

Request: Boiler/hot water heater replacement: \$15.0
ADA access to building and bathroom: \$ 3.5
Total request: \$18.5

The Division funds Wasey House to provide emergency shelter care for children ages 12-18 years. The shelter program provides a temporary, safe living environment for children in crisis. The heating equipment at Wasey house is dilapidated and very inefficient. Currently, one side of the building is cold and the program functions without hot water in one shower. In the winter, pipes freeze in the boiler room, and the heating system goes down once or twice every winter. The Wasey House residential facility is a place of public accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and therefore is required to be accessible to persons with disabilities. The building needs a ramp for building entry and an accessible restroom.

Alaska Baptist Family Services

Request: Replace heating system: \$32.0
Window replacement: \$10.5
Furniture replacement: \$ 6.8
Two washers and dryers: \$ 1.5
Two computers: \$ 5.0
One security camera with four monitors: \$ 5.0
Total request: \$60.8

Alaska Baptist Family Services provides specialized residential care to severely emotionally disordered children and youth ages 6-18 years. The residential program's heating system and windows are over 24 years old. Often the agency has to augment the available heat with electric heaters, as the current system is old and inadequate in extremely cold weather. The agency also has some additional needs in terms of furniture and appliances, which undergo a great deal of wear and tear in dealing with children and youth. Security for the safety of the children is an issue, as when children attempt to run away from the facility. Moose have also been on the premises, making for an unsafe situation for children and agency staff.

Juneau Youth Services

Request: New van: \$ 30.0
New Roof for Miller House: \$ 70.0
Miller House ADA compliance: \$ 40.0
Total request: \$140.0

The Miller House program at Juneau Youth Services provides Intensive Specialized Residential treatment services for 14 youth ages 12-18 years. The current building is over 36 years old and, as a result, is in a constant state of needing repair. The Miller House facility needs to be retrofitted with a pitched roof. The current flat roof results in ongoing repair needs to both the roof and the building. In addition, the age of the building also necessitates major remodeling needs for ADA compliance requirements. The sinks and toilets are currently designed for very young children. As a residential care provider, it is necessary for the program to transport youth to various places to meet health, educational and recreational needs. A request to replace an existing vehicle is also being made.

Nome Receiving Home

Request: Window replacement: \$7.5
Leveling building: \$15.0
Damage repair: \$5.0
Total request: \$27.5

The Nome Receiving Home provides both emergency shelter and specialized residential care for children and youth ages 10-18 years. It serves the city of Nome and the surrounding Bering Straits Region containing 20 Eskimo villages. The current program is provided in a 25-year-old building. The original windows have been destroyed by youth in placement over the years and no longer open and shut properly. The building needs to be leveled because the permafrost shifts and the doors no longer open and close properly, which makes security very difficult. The youth in placement have caused a large amount of physical damage, the costs of which are not covered in grant funds.

Booth Memorial Youth and Family Services

Request: Sprinkler system: \$75.0

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Total request: \$75.0

The Salvation Army Booth Memorial Youth and Family Services main building is a 14,000 square foot Intensive Residential Treatment facility. This facility is 39 years old and located in Anchorage. The Municipality of Anchorage has notified the agency that their "grandfather clause" for exemption from installing a sprinkler system will expire in 18 months. Estimates indicate it will take \$75,000 to bring the building up to code with the installation of the sprinkler system and with the new fire alarm system for the hearing impaired.

Alaska Children's Services (ACS)

Request: Treatment cottage floor covering: \$25.0

Full size van: \$30.0

Total request: \$55.0

ACS provides Residential Psychiatric Treatment for up to 36 severely emotionally disturbed children and for youth ages 6-17 years. The floor covering in some of the treatment cottage is approaching ten years of age. Extensive use, tears, stains and general wear are evident and the floor covering needs to be replaced. The van serving the young children's treatment cottage is over 10 years old. Extensive repairs are becoming necessary, making it no longer cost-effective to continue to invest in an older vehicle.

Anchorage Center for Families

Request: Commercial grade stove: \$ 3.0

Kitchen remodel: \$31.0

Total request: \$34.0

Anchorage Center for Families operates the Intermission Crisis Nursery, which is licensed by the State of Alaska as a residential emergency shelter for children birth through twelve years old. Fifteen children may be in the program at any one time when their families are experiencing a crisis that necessitates the children being in a temporary placement.

This request covers remodeling the kitchen to work toward compliance with state and municipal code to maintain safe and efficient food storage and preparation. The work will include replacement of kitchen cupboards and countertops which have been damaged through years of steam from the dish sterilizer, the addition of a third sink which is required for food service, and replacement of a freezer. Due to the volume of hot meals served every day (20 persons, 3 meals a day) a commercial grade stove is needed.

Residential Youth Care

Request: ADA renovations: \$21.5

Kitchen modifications: \$ 6.8

Bedroom repair: \$ 9.8

Total request: \$38.1

Residential Youth Care in Ketchikan provides emergency shelter care and specialized residential treatment for children and youth ages 10-19 years. The home in which the children reside was built in 1934. As a result, there are a number of renovations that need to occur to make this setting more safe, healthy and comfortable for residents. The home is not handicapped accessible, so a number of renovations must be done, such as installation of a ramp and widening of doorways. The kitchen is in urgent need of repair, needs a new stove and dishwasher, and has a suspended ceiling that needs major repair. One of the bedrooms for two of the youth needs extensive remodeling due to its age.

Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center

Request: New roof for office building: \$5.0

New carpet for office building: \$3.5

Total request: \$8.5

Kenai Peninsula Community Care Center provides emergency shelter care as well as specialized residential care for youth ages 12-18 years. One of their programs specializes in the treatment of sex offenders. The agency has an office building, which is also used to provide services to youth and their families. This building is in critical need of a new roof and carpeting. The current roof leaks, causing damage to furniture and belongings. The carpeting has been damaged and worn almost beyond repair. The carpet is very stained and in spots is so worn that it is a liability in the event someone would trip and fall on the patches.

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Alaska Youth and Parent Foundation

Request: Various appliances and repairs: \$30.0
New sprinkler system: \$75.0
Security system: \$ 5.0
Computer: \$ 2.5
Furniture: \$ 2.0
Carpeting for bedrooms: \$ 3.0
Total request: \$117.5

The Alaska Youth and Parent Foundation provides emergency shelter services to children and youth ages 8-18 years. The freezers, refrigerators and stoves currently being used are extremely old and barely serviceable. The window frames in the Laurel Shelter facility need to be replaced, as they have become structurally unsafe. The current water heater and furnace have been determined by the local gas company to be in need of upgrading to minimize high fuel bills. The shelter is in need of a security system, due to the difficult behaviors that many of the youth at the shelter exhibit. In addition, the program needs to install parking lot signage, removable ramps to second stories and emergency lighting to become ADA compliant.

Presbyterian Hospitality House

Request: ADA remodels - 3 programs: \$ 75.0
Pave driveways - 3 \$ 24.0
5 computers: \$ 10.0
2 replacement furnaces: \$ 12.0
2 security cameras: \$ 4.0
Total request: \$125.0

Presbyterian Hospitality House provides emergency shelter and specialized residential care to youth ages 12-18 years. The agency operates at four different sites. To be in ADA compliance, the agency needs to install a ramp and remodel one bathroom in three of their sites. The graveled driveways for these programs also need paving to increase accessibility. Two of the homes need replacement furnaces. The extremely cold winters in Fairbanks necessitate adequate heating facilities for staff and residents. The emergency shelter is in need of two security cameras to increase safety for residents and staff. The agency is also requesting computers for their staff. The staff currently uses their own personal computers for all agency work. Enabling the agency to purchase computers will enable the staff of the four facilities to network with each other, allow the agency to be more productive, and eliminate the need for use of personal equipment.

Anana's House

Request: Computer: \$2.5
Refrigerator: \$1.5
Total request: \$4.0

Anana's House in Dillingham provides emergency shelter care to children from birth to 18 years old. The program serves Dillingham and the surrounding 32 villages. The current refrigerator used by the facility is too small to hold all the necessary food items. In addition, the program is requesting a computer for the children to help them in completing their homework assignments.

Kodiak Youth Services Center

Request: Shower: \$ 5.0
Van: \$30.0
Computer: \$ 2.5
Total request: \$37.5

Kodiak Youth Services Center provides Day Treatment and Specialized Residential care to children and youth ages 11-18 years. This agency has two pressing needs. The first is the installation of a shower stall in the activity center, which is used for youth that stay under the non-secure holding program and for youth who are awaiting a respite placement. A 15-passenger van is needed for transportation of the youth in both programs. The agency is also requesting a computer to enable staff to better document their case management activities.

Family Focus

Request: ADA addition: \$208.0

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2 computers: \$ 5.0
Furniture: \$ 11.8
Woodstove: \$ 4.0
Van: \$ 30.0
TV/VCR: \$ 1.0
Total request: \$259.8

Family Focus provides emergency shelter services for youth in the Fairbanks community. Their facilities are in constant need of upgrades due to the high volume of youth that they serve. The program is requesting funding to expand the current building by adding an ADA approved wing to the current facility. The furniture at the facility is over 10 years old and is in need of replacement. The van used to transport clients is 15 years old. The addition of a woodstove as a backup heating system will provide additional warmth for the staff and youth in the shelter during the extremely cold winter months.

Sitka Youth Home

Request: Bathroom renovation: \$16.0
Foundation repairs: \$ 5.0
Window replacements: \$ 5.0
Drywall repair: \$ 2.5
Counseling room extension: \$50.0
2 computers: \$ 5.0
Pantry renovation: \$ 7.0
Total request: \$90.5

The Sitka Youth Home provides specialized residential care for youth. The current residential building is in need of major repair and remodeling. The building is at least 15 years old and has sustained a large amount of water damage, both inside the structure and under the foundation. Health, fire and safety inspectors have all identified repairs and renovations that must be made. In addition, the program has no space outside of the youth's living space that can be used for therapy and other treatment related activities.